

Washington State Patrol Media Release

Chief John Batiste



Captain Jeff DeVere
Government and Media Relations
(360) 753-5299 – office
(360) 753-5469 – fax
<http://www.wsp.wa.gov>

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Contact: Trooper Brian George
(360) 405-6633

Troopers Determine Speed as a Contributing Factor In Clallam County Fatality Collision

In the early morning hours of Sunday April 2, 2006 Haley Haller lost her life along Highway 101 two miles east of Port Angeles. Haley was traveling east on Highway 101 near Elwha Road when she left the roadway to the right striking a billboard pillar, ripping her vehicle in half. The two half's of the vehicle caught fire. Haley died at the scene as a result of the collision. Excessive speed is the contributing factor to the cause of the collision.

Troopers from the Port Angeles Detachment of the Washington State Patrol responded to the scene and investigated the collision. While conducting interviews with witness and responding officers, it was learned Haley's vehicle, a 2001 Lexus, was seen traveling above the posted speed limit along the 8th Street Bridge in Port Angeles. An officer from the Port Angeles Police Department turned on the vehicle, but quickly lost sight of the Lexus. The Lexus was last seen by officers approximately 2 miles from the scene of the collision. The Lexus was reported as speeding away from the officer, and had turned off its headlights. Members of the Port Angeles Police Department were unable to locate the Lexus, and began an area search. Minutes later, the report of the collision was received. Witnesses later confirmed the vehicle officers attempted to stop, was the same vehicle involved in the collision.

Evidence at the scene indicates excessive speed contributed to the collision.

Troopers want to remind drivers that excessive speed is a leading cause of collisions. In 2005 troopers assigned to the Port Angeles Detachment cited speed as the cause in 30% of all collisions investigated. State wide 19% of fatality collisions investigated by troopers were caused by speed. Drivers need to make an extra effort to slow down, to keep themselves and loved ones safe. When traveling at a safe speed it allows drivers to react properly to hazards, allowing enough time to keep themselves and other motorists safe.

To learn additional driving safety tips see the 'Driving 101 - its Basic Safety' Safety Corridor Project web site at <http://drive2survive101.com>.

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District Eight

Clallam*Jefferson*Kitsap*Mason*Grays Harbor*Pacific*Wahkiakum